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Attorney Docket No. 095309.52833US  
Clean Substitute Specification

## VEHICLE COVERING PART AND METHOD FOR FITTING IT

### BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The invention relates to a vehicle covering part having a snap-in connecting system, and to a method for fitting the vehicle covering part to a vehicle body.

[0002] Vehicle covering parts of the generic type mentioned above are known, for example, German patent document DE 198 24 720 C1, which discloses a composite profile, such as a trim strip of a motor vehicle. The composite profile contains a band-shaped support which constitutes the visible part. Inserted on the rear side of the support is a rail that is made from polymeric material and has outwardly protruding retaining clips that are integrally moulded thereon. The retaining clips are used to fasten the composite profile into correspondingly designed openings in the motor vehicle body.

[0003] One object of the present invention is to provide an alternative vehicle covering part, and a method for fitting it to a vehicle body.

[0004] This and other objects and advantages are achieved by the vehicle covering part according to the invention, which has a support element that can